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W. P. Blake. The specimen, 2½ feet in length, had the density of ivory, and indicated one of the largest of the little known family of the ziphioid whales. It was referred to a new genus and species with the name of *Proroziphius macrops.*

The other fossils are of the giant sloth, the Megatherium, presented by Mr. George T. Lewis, of this city. These were also found in the Ashley deposits, and are probably the remains of animals which became mired in marshes after the elevation of the Ashley deposits above the ocean level.

*Two New Minerals.*—Prof. J. LAWRENCE SMITH exhibited specimens of two new minerals. The first is a mammillary coating on the columbic acid minerals from North Carolina. It is white and soft, being a hydrate columbate of yttria with about 15 per cent. of water. Sufficient of the mineral has not been obtained, in a state of purity for a thorough analysis, but there is every prospect that there will be. It is readily found on many of the specimens of Samarskite and Euxenite (which last mineral Prof. Smith has discovered to be a constant associate of Samarskite). No name has yet been given to the mineral, as Prof. Smith prefers to complete the analysis before giving it a name.

He also gave some little historical account of the columbic acid minerals.

Another species for which the name *Daubrêlite* is proposed is an interesting mineral recently discovered by Prof. Smith on the nodule of Troilite existing on the Cohahuida meteoric irons that he has been examining. It is a sulphuret of chromium, is a black shining mineral, with a perfect cleavage in one direction, giving a black powder soluble in nitric acid which solution is of an intense chrome green—and is found to contain sulphuric acid, oxide of chromium, and a little oxide of iron, which last Prof. Smith supposes to come from some Troilite not perfectly separated from the Daubrélite—as this mineral is found on almost all the nodules of Troilite in that iron.

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MAY 30.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the Chair.

Thirty-eight members present.

Chapters XII., XIII., XIV., and XV. of the Amended By-Laws were adopted.

Article 1, Chap. VIII., was amended by adding after the words "thirteen professors:" "Who shall be appointed and superseded or dismissed only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the whole Council."

The meeting having adjourned to June 6th, the following were then elected members:—

Wm. Wharton, Jr., C. H. Cramp, Chas. H. Rogers, A. R. Justice, Edw. P. Borden, Edw. Taylor, J. T. Audenreid, J. S. Helfenstein, Mrs. Gertrude A. Quimby, Henry M. Laing, Maxwell Sommerville, and Chas. A. Slocum, M.D.

Prof. Wentzel Gruber, of St. Petersburg, was elected a correspondent.

*On some supposed Lemurine forms of the Eocene Period.*—Prof. COPE communicated verbally the following observations:—

I have seen no reason to modify the view originally expressed as to the Quadrumanous affinities of *Anaptomorphus*, but new light has been thrown on the structure of *Tomitherium* and its allies. The fragments of skeletons of two species of this genus (*T. jarrovii* and *T. tutum*) include numerous bones of the tarsus, and these are identical with corresponding parts in the *Creodonta* and different from those of the *Lemuridæ*. The astragalus extends anterior to the shortened calcaneum, and the navicular is short and the cuboid not elongate. The astragalus presents two oblique flat surfaces, one for the internal malleolus, the other for the transverse facet of the tibia. The portions of femur, including the third trochanter, the proximal part of the ulna, and the distal portion of the humerus, are all closely similar to those of the *Creodonta*. The type of *Tomitherium* includes some parts of the skeleton not present in the New Mexican species. Thus the ilium of *T. rostratum*, while furnished with the prominent anterior inferior spine of the *Creodonta*, is flattened towards the crest, and is not angulate on the external face. The femur is furnished with a very elevated third trochanter as in *Chiromys* and *Talpa*, and not low down as in *Creodonta*. The head of the radius is rounder than in *Creodonta*. The skeleton of *Tomitherium* in fact bears strong resemblance to that of *Chiromys*, leaving the skull out of view.

The skeleton of the New Mexican form includes an entocuneiform like that of *Stypolophus hians*, which indicates a non-opposable hallux.

It is apparent that the supposed lemurine *Mammalia* of the type of *Tomitherium*, which have the formula of the molar teeth 4–3, cannot be separated by ordinal distinction from the *Creodonta*. They differ from them, it is true, in their wholly tubercular molar teeth, but relate to them in this as the bears and *Procyomidæ* do to other *Carnivora*. I propose therefore to constitute these a distinct group or suborder, intermediate in position between the *Creodonta* and the *Prosimiæ*, under the name of the *Mesodonta*.

I cannot find characters by which to distinguish this division from the *Insectivora* as an order.

I have applied to this order the name *Insectivora* so as to avoid the creation of a new one. I now think that the latter would have been the better course. The name *Insectivora* has acquired currency as applied to the well-known modern group of that name, and its application to types of such apparent diversity as those now associated under a single head is not a convenience. I therefore propose the name *Bunotheria* for the order, and include under it the suborders, *Creodonta*, *Mesodonta*, *Insectivora*, *Tillodonta*, and *Taeniodonta*. Further investigation will be necessary in order to determine the relations of the *Prosimiæ* to this order.

The committees to which they had been referred recommended the following papers to be published:—